

April 27, 2010 Water Supply Forecast Discussion

The April 27, 2010 Bulletin 120 Forecast Update is posted at <http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/iodir?s=b120up>. This forecast includes observed conditions through the morning of April 27, 2010.

Forecast Summary:

The projected median April-July runoff now ranges from 100 percent (Mokelumne River) to 132 percent (Tule River) of average. All basins had gains since last week; on average, the basins gained 7 percent since last week. The Kings River had the smallest gain of 2 percent while the Tule River had the largest gain of 12 percent.

Runoff:

April Full Natural Flows for all forecasted rivers are above 80 percent, including the Yuba River which stood at 68 percent of average last week. The Trinity River, the Sacramento River, the inflow to Lake Shasta; and the Kaweah River are now flowing at or above average for the month of April. The Kaweah River broke average during the last week.

Precipitation:

The Northern Sierra 8-Station Index gained 8.1 inches of precipitation from April 1 through April 29. Since, April 22, there has been a gain of 2.4 inches of rain. The seasonal total is currently at 48.8 inches which is 107 percent of average to date and 98 percent of an average water year. The San Joaquin 5-Station Index gained 7.2 inches of precipitation from April 1 through April 28. Since April 21, there has been a gain of 0.9 inches of rain. The seasonal total is currently at 41.7 inches which is 113 percent of average to date and 102 percent of the average water year.

Snowpack:

According to the April 28 snow sensor data, the statewide snowpack was 111 percent of the April 1 average and 136 percent of average for the date. The statewide percent of average to date has increased 13 percent since April 20. The northern Sierras had the greatest gain of 21 percent for this period.

Weather and Climate Outlooks:

The NWS Climate Prediction Center's (CPC) 30-day outlook for May, last updated April 15, suggests an increased chance of above normal temperatures for the southern third of California and equal chances of above or below normal temperatures for the rest of the state. The precipitation outlook suggests equal chances of above and below normal precipitation for all of state.

The six day forecast (NOAA) produced the morning of April 29, 2010 indicates no precipitation in California through the entire six days. Freezing levels will be below 8500 feet statewide through Friday, after which levels will rise to between 9,000 and 14,000 feet for the remaining days of the period.

Next Update:

The next Bulletin 120 forecast will be produced for conditions on May 1, 2010 and will be available on May 11. If you need guidance or have any questions before then, please contact us:

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Important Links**Full Natural Flow Data:**

Daily FNF

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FNF

Monthly FNF

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FNFSUM

Seasonal FNF

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snowsurvey_ro/FLOWOUT

Precipitation Data:

Latest Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryDaily?s=8SI&d=today>

Latest San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryDaily?s=5SI&d=today>

Snow Data:

Latest Snow Sensor Report

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/PAGE6>

Latest Statewide Summary of Snow Water Equivalents

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/snow/DLYSWEQ>

Monthly Snow Course Report

<http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/reports/COURSES.201004>

Extended Regional Forecasts:

California Nevada River Forecast Center 6 Day QPF and Snow Level Forecast

<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/awipsProducts/RNOHD6RSA.php>

Climate Prediction Center One-Month Outlook Forecasts

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/predictions/30day/>

Climate Prediction Center Three-Month Outlook Forecasts

<http://www.cpc.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/>

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/seasonal_drought.html

Weather Forecast Office California Service Area-Products

<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/forecasts.php>